

OUR EXCHANGES.

The Mount Vernon (Mo.) Chieftain is advocating the organization of a society for the prevention of cruelty to vegetation. It deeply deprecates digging eyes out of potatoes, pulling ears off corn, eating heads of cabbages, pulling beards off rye, threshing wheat, cutting hearts out of trees, spilling blood of beets, tearing skin off peaches, breaking necks of squashes, scalding lettuce, quartering apples, squeezing lemons and many other such outrages.

A drummer (and a drummer you know, never tells a lie) told us how a preacher tested the effects of hard times on his congregation. At the conclusion of one of his sermons he said: "Let everybody in the house who are paying their debts stand up." Instantly every man, woman and child, with one exception, rose to their feet. The preacher seated them and said: "Now, let every man who is not paying his debts stand up." The exception noted, a care-worn hungry-looking individual, clothed in his last summer's suit, slowly assumed a perpendicular position. "How is it my friend," asked the minister, that you are the only man in the congregation who is unable to meet his obligations?" "I run a newspaper," he meekly answered, "and the brethren here who just stood up are my subscribers, and—" "Let us pray," exclaimed the minister.—Tipton (Mo.) Mail.

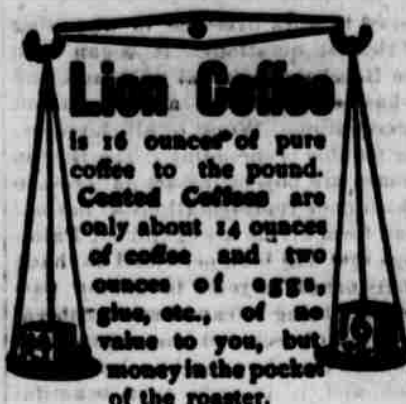
Calamity Howlers.

State Tribune.

The calamity howlers ought to be driven out of business. They do more to harm a community than a dozen drouths. They destroy their own pleasure, encourage trouble and make the atmosphere murky with misery. People who talk business are far better citizens. The way to make business is to talk business. The way to create calamity is to preach it.

The country does not go to the dogs as long as its citizens have brave hearts and stiff upper lips and go to work. Busy people seldom have desire of opportunity to talk calamity. If you are not busy get something to do. There's plenty of work if you are willing to take anything that comes along. Then there will be less grumbling and regretting.

The crop which has succeeded best in Missouri this year has been the prophecies of evil. We wish the drouth would strike them.



Will Prospect for Coal.

Slater Hunter.

Mr. E. S. Jones, of Kansas City, a promoter of coal properties, has been in Slater for the past ten days obtaining mining leases along the right-of-way of the Alton between Slater and Norton for the Eastern Coal and Mining Company. Leases have been obtained upon about 400 acres of land. The farmers seem willing to give the leases desired, as they have nothing to lose by it and will get a royalty on all the coal mined underneath their land.

The business men of Slater are considerably interested in the matter and will use their influence in behalf of Mr. Jones and his company in getting concessions, as they realize that should the prospecting result in finding plenty of merchantable coal, it would prove a good thing for the business interests of this city and of much value to the farms under which the coal is mined.

We are informed by Mr. Jones that should sufficient leases be obtained his company will begin prospecting with an improved core drill during next month and if sufficient coal is discovered a first class mining plant costing probably \$25,000, will be put in operation.

Mr. Jones is a mining expert of twenty years experience and his willingness to do the prospecting at his own and the company's expense, seems to indicate that he has much faith in the venture. He wishes us to express his gratitude to Henry Sherk, J. T. Rector and others, who have manifested an interest in the matter.

"Up Against It."

Newport (Ark.) Independent.

P. H. VanDyke, senior proprietor of the Independent, left Thursday night for his old home in Marshall, Mo., where he will enjoy a ten days' visit with his parents. We would remind our friends that the junior partner is "up against it" and will appreciate all favors shown by way of news items, etc.

Over One Dollar an Ear.

Sweet Springs Herald.

While F. Brumme and Dick Mitchell were out in the country selling pictures last Saturday they passed by the farm of Wm. Bernard, about one-half mile south of town, and, noticing some fine roasting ears in Mr. Bernard's corn field, and knowing the scarcity and rarity of this toothsome cereal, concluded they would borrow a few ears. They accordingly climbed over the fence and procured twenty-two ears and started for town.

About that time Bernard happened along and concluded he did not want to loan the boys any of his roasting ears, so he came to town, swore out warrants for their arrest and they were arrested and give bond to appear before Squire Ehlers the following Monday.

Monday morning the boys were arraigned, plead guilty and were fined \$12.50 each.

Roasting ears are very fine this time of year, but to have to pay over one dollar an ear makes them taste too much like silver.

McQuitty is Sore.

Madison Capital.

McQuitty's Rochepot Democrat says: "Governor Dockery has gone to that notorious republican state, Wisconsin, to secure a state geologist. Tuesday the state board of geology, under the instruction of our governor, elected Prof. E. B. Buckley to succeed the late John A. Gallaher. Since the death of Mr. Gallaher a son has been filling out the unexpired term of his father. In electing Professor Buckley eight native born Missouri democrats were turned down. In our last national campaign Buckley made goldbug speeches throughout his state, and scratched Bryan's name on the national ticket. Fellow democrats of Missouri, who have fought so hard for the success of the party you love next to your God, draw your own conclusions."

Have Signed the Contract.

Sweet Springs Herald.

At a meeting held in the city hall Tuesday night the directors for the Sweet Springs Mining and Prospecting company read, discussed and finally signed a contract with a boring company from Joplin. The contract reads that they will begin work inside of thirty days and was forwarded to Joplin Wednesday, the 13th; so if everything is favorable to the company at Joplin work will begin by the 13th of September.

The following is the committee appointed by the president, E. T. Bellamy, to select a place to drill and report next Saturday night: Wm. Binkley, Henry Pinkepank, W. K. Smith, Leper King and Henry Weber.

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